

NOTES  
ON  
PONY AND HORSE RACING  
IN  
HONGKONG  
1845-1887.

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NORONHA & Co.

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## INTRODUCTORY.

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There are few social gatherings in Hongkong that are as enjoyable as the Annual Dinner of the Stewards of the Hongkong Jockey Club. The company is small consisting of ten or a dozen men who are well acquainted. Éclat is lent to the gathering by the presence of the highest Civil, Naval and Military Authorities in the persons of the Governor, the Admiral, the General and the Commodore. The inspiriting conversation of our veteran chairman, Sir Paul Chater, a very Prince of optimists, fills our minds with confidence that the forthcoming meeting will eclipse all its predecessors in success, while the thoughtful care of our Clerk of the Course ensures grateful refreshment to our bodies. Indeed he who has not tasted York Ham à la *Jardinière* and Angel Pie, prepared by the direction and under the supervision of Mr. T. F. Hough, can lay no claim to be an epicure.

It was at one of these pleasant little functions not long ago that conversation turned on byegone days, when thorough-bred horses imported from England competed for the Blue Ribands of the Hongkong Turf in the Happy Valley. Some one remarked that it was a pity no readily accessible record existed of the achievements of a glorious past, whereupon I offered to write a short account of racing in Hongkong anterior to the time when the races were confined to Chinese ponies.

These notes, which have taken much longer in collecting than I anticipated, are the earnest of my promise. They are, I fear, lacking in detail and meagre in incident. But the old records of the Jockey Club were not well kept, and the accounts of the races published at the time do not supply the information in which the records are deficient.

I have thus found it very difficult to determine in many instances of what breed the ponies and horses were that ran, or who their owners and riders were. I have endeavoured to ascertain something of the pedigrees and form on the English Turf of the English horses that ran in Hongkong, but without much success, and I must thus place these notes before the public in what I fear is a somewhat bald and uninteresting form.

F. H. MAY,

Hongkong, October, 1909.



## CHAPTER I.

1845-1855.

### *Ponies other than Chinese—Australian and Arab horses and introduction of English horses.*

Dr. Eitel mentions in his History of Hongkong that the annual races were during the administration of Sir H. Pottinger (1841-1844) "still held in Macao, for which purpose a general pilgrimage to Macao occupied the latter half of the month of February in 1842 and 1843".

The Jockey Club records do not go further back than the year 1849, and the first mention of horse or pony races in Hongkong that I have been able to find in the files of the local newspapers is in the *China Mail* of 10th December, 1846, where it is announced that a meeting had been fixed for the 17th and 18th December, 1846.

No account of the races could, however, be found in subsequent issues of the paper. The numbers for 18th to 23rd December, 1846, are missing from the files in the City Hall and Colonial Secretary's Office. It may be that those days being Public Holidays there was no issue of the paper.

The meeting of 1850 is, however, described in the *China Mail* as the sixth annual meeting. It may be assumed therefore that the first race meeting in Hongkong was held in 1845. There has been a meeting in each year since that date. I have found only a fragmentary record of the meeting of 1847 at which the Wongneichong and Valley Stakes were won by a Manila pony called *Tetoy*.

*Tetoy* seems to have been a remarkable little pony. Imported from Manila in 1843 he won the Valley Stakes four times in succession (1847-1850 inclusive) carrying a cumulative penalty of 7 lb. for each win.

His height was 13.1½.

1848.

Three days racing took place on the 7th, 8th and 9th of February. Sixteen races, including a hurdle race and a ponies' steeple chase, were run. There was also a race for Native riders.

No particulars are available as to what the horses and ponies were that ran. They were probably Walers, Arabs and Manila and other ponies.

The weights for ponies were 7 st. for 12 hands with 7 lb. added for each additional inch.

The first race was the Wongneichong Stakes. It was won by *Monsoon*.

The second was the Plenipotentiary's Cup presented by Sir John Davis and won by *Grey Style*. I gather from subsequent records that the horse was a Waler.

The third race was the Valley Stakes won by *Tetoy*.

On the second day *St. Andrew* won the Canton Cup and on the third day *Beauty* won the Ladies' Purse.

The other races are not of historic interest.

### 1849.

There were three days racing, on the 15th, 16th and 17th of January, comprising seventeen races of which nine and one steeple chase were for ponies and seven for horses.

The Wongneichong Stakes, for all ponies under 13 hands, once round, was won by Mr. Clement's *Charlie*.

The Canton Cup—for all horses—Arabs 9 st. 7 lb.—Sydney and Cape horses 11 st.—was won by Mr. Chance's *Lottery*.

The Valley Stakes, for all ponies 13.2 hands and under, once round and a distance, was won by Mr. Scott's *Tetoy*.

The Plenipotentiary's Cup, presented by H. E. Mr. G. Bonham, C.B.,—for all horses, weights as in the Canton Cup—from the distance twice round and in—was won by Mr. Day's *Kathleen*, Mr. Alexander's *Grey Style* was second and Mr. Chance's *Lottery* third.

The Ladies' Purse—handicap for all ponies, once round and a distance,—was won by *Charlie*.

### 1850.

The 1850 race meeting was held on the 4th, 5th and 6th of February. The first event was the Wongneichong Stakes for all ponies under 13 hands; weight for inches; former winners of the race barred; entrance \$3 each with \$20 added—Once round and a distance.

Six Manila ponies, and one other, whether a Cape or China pony I have been unable to determine, started. The race was won by Mr. Fletcher's Manila pony *Cruiskeen* (8 st.) ridden by Mr. Foster of the 95th Regiment.

The next race was the "Celestial Cup" value \$150 presented by Mr. David Jardine for all horses; weight 9 st. 7 lb. for Arabs and 11 st. 5 lb. for Sydney and Cape-bred horses. From the Garden turn once round and in. Five Sydney horses and three Arabs started. Mr. Dudgeon's Arab *Great Western*, ridden by Mr. King of the 59th Regiment, won.

It is recorded that Mr. R. (afterwards Sir Robert) Jardine riding a horse named *Moss Trooper*, the property of Mr. Jardine, hurt his leg by colliding in the race with "the bamboo railing". I understand he broke his leg.

The third race was the Valley Stakes for all ponies of 13 hds. 2 inches and under ; weight for inches ; former winners of the race to carry “ 7 lb. extra progressively”. Entrance \$3 with \$25 added—once round and a distance. Mr. A. Scott’s *Tetoy* carrying 9 stone, ridden by Mr. W. Dent, won from three other Manila ponies. A Welter race for Arabs was won by Mr. Bonham’s Arab *Temptation* ridden by Mr. King of the 59th Regiment. A Scurry Stakes for all ponies at catch weights, won by Mr. King’s Manila pony *Gabriel Grub*, brought the first day to a close.

There were five races (two for horses and three for ponies) on the second day including the Plenipotentiary’s Cup presented by H. E. the Governor Mr. G. Bonham, C.B., for all horses, Arabs 9 st. 7 lb., Sydney and Cape horses 11 st. 5 lb., from the distance post twice round and in. The race was won by Mr. King’s *Kathleen*, ridden by Mr. de Montmorency (59th Regiment). The same horse and rider carried off the Sydney Stakes for all horses (Arabs excepted) weight 12 stone ; and, on the third day, a Plate (for all horses) presented by Mr. G. Pereira, and a Handicap (for all horses). In the latter race *Kathleen* carried 12 st. 13 lb. The lowest weight in the Handicap was 7 st. 7 lb.

The Ladies’ Purse (for all ponies) was won by Mr. Jardine’s Manila pony *Prince*, ridden by Mr. Still. The Jardine colours in those early days were blue and white. On the third day there were three races for horses and three for ponies. A Cup presented by the Canton Community for Arab horses only (9 st. 10 lb.), from the Garden turn once round and in, was won by Mr. Jardine’s *St. Andrew* (Mr. Armstrong, 95th Regiment), Mr. Bonham’s *Temptation* (Mr. Foster, 95th Regiment) was second, and Mr. Dudgeon’s *Great Western* (Mr. King, 59th Regiment) third.

On the 7th February two private matches, and on the 16th of the same month no less than five such matches, were run. On the latter date a pony handicap with weights ranging from 6 st. 7 lb. to 10 st. 7 lb. was also disposed of.

## 1851.

The meeting of 1851 was held early in February, and subsequent meetings recorded in these notes were all held in the same month. The meeting opened with the Wongneichong Stakes, under the same conditions as in the previous year, won by Mr. Snow’s Manila pony *Creditor* (Mr. W. Dent).

The Glenealy Cup for all horses, Arabs 9 st. 7 lb., Sydney, Cape, English or stud-bred horses 11 st. 5 lb.— $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles—was won by Mr. John Dent’s Sydney mare *Kathleen* (Mr. King, 59th Regiment); Mr. Jardine’s English mare *Maggie Lauder* (Mr. R. Jardine) being second, and Mr. Fletcher’s Sydney horse *Pretender* (late *Quychye*), which had a good record in Singapore and Batavia, third.

The Valley Stakes fell to Mr. Snow’s *Creditor* (Mr. Crofton, R.N.), Mr. Jardine’s Arab pony *The Sheik* (Capt. Urquhart, 59th Regiment) being second.

A welter race (10 st. 7 lb.) for Arabs ( $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles) was won by His Excellency the Governor Sir George Bonham's *Temptation*.

The Plenipotentiary's Cup (presented by Sir G. Bonham, K.C.B.) for Arabs (9 st. 10 lb.) and Sydney, Cape, English, or studbred horses (11 st. 10 lb.) was won by the Sydney horse *Goliath*, part owned and ridden by Captain Stavely of the 44th Regiment. Mr. J. Dent's *Kathleen* (Mr. King) was second, Mr. Jardine's *Maggie Lauder* (Mr. R. Jardine) third, and the same owner's *St. Andrew* fourth. Distance 2 miles. Time 4 m. 13 sec.

There was a separate race for Sydney horses, which was won by Mr. Fletcher's *Pretender* (Mr. Clarke, 59th Regiment). Distance  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles. Time 3 m. 4 sec.

The Canton Cup for Arabs was won by Mr. Jardine's *St. Andrew* ridden by Mr. R. Jardine. Distance  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles. Time 3 m. 7 sec.

The Ladies' Purse (1 mile, 9 st., winners to be handicapped) was won by Mr. Scott's Manila pony *Tetoy*.

The Hongkong Plate for all horses—12 stone with allowance of 7 lb. for each inch below 15.2—was won by Mr. W. Dent's Sydney horse *Lottery* (Mr. de Montmorency).

A Handicap for all winners was won by *Pretender*, but an objection being upheld against him, the race went to Mr. W. Dent's *Lottery*. Distance  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles. Time 3 m. 3 sec.

Some sensation was caused by the Consolation Race being won by a Sydney horse that was taken out of a buggy and allowed to run to make a race, there being only two other starters.

There were four days racing at this meeting. On the first three seven pony races and twelve races for horses were run (including two for hacks). On the fourth one race for untrained horses and one for untrained ponies besides a number of matches, were run.

## 1852.

The Wongneichong Stakes was won by Mr. Lamond's Arab pony *Cockspinner* (Lieut. Burdon, R.N.).

The Valley Stakes was won by Mr. R. Jardine's *The Sheik* (Arab) (Mr. Clarke, 59th Regiment), carrying 10 stone.

The Powshun Cup presented by Mr. Wilkinson Dent, was won by Mr. Fletcher's *Pretender* (Mr. Clarke, 59th Regiment) and the Plenipotentiary's Cup, under the same conditions as in the previous year, fell to the same horse and rider. Mr. Leslie's *Queen of Clubs* (Sydney horse) owner up was second and Mr. Murrow's *Struggles* (Sydney horse) (Lieut. Burdon, R.N.) third. Distance 2 miles. Time 4 m. 16 sec.

The Canton Cup (for Arabs only) was won by Mr. John Dent's *Erin-go-bragh* (Lieut. Burdon, R.N.), Mr. Jardine's *St. Andrew* (Mr. R. Jardine) was second and the same owner's *Moss Trooper* (Mr. Clarke, 59th Regiment) third. Distance  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles. Time 3 m. 9 sec.

*Erin-go-bragh* had previously enjoyed a high reputation on the turf in Madras and Ceylon.

The Sydney Stakes, for all Sydney horses, was won by Mr. Leslie's *Haphazard* (Mr. Clarke, 59th Regiment).

The Victoria Plate and Ladies' Purse were won by Mr. R. Jardine on his Arab pony *The Sheik*.

The Hastings Cup, presented by Rear Admiral Austen and the Officers H.M.S. *Hastings*—for all horses—Arabs 10 stone, Sydney, Cape, English or stud-bred horses 12 st. was won by Mr. Jardine's English mare *Maggie Lauder* (Mr. R. Jardine), Mr. Leslie's Sydney mare *Queen of Clubs* (owner) was second and Mr. John Dent's *Erin-go-bragh* (Lieut. Burdon, R.N.) was third. Distance 1½ miles. Time 3 m. 8 sec.

There were twenty races run on the first three days of the meeting, and the usual hack races and matches on the fourth (off) day.

### 1853.

The race for the Wongneichong Stakes was won by Mr. Jardine's Manila pony *Prince* (Mr. Goddard).

The Canton Cup was again won by Mr. John Dent's Arab *Erin-go-bragh* (Mr. Chomley). Mr. Jardine's *St. Andrew* (Mr. R. Jardine) was second. Distance 1½ miles. Time 3 m. 17 sec.

The Valley Stakes was won by Mr. Fletcher's Arab *Rory* (Captain Holworthy) from two Manila ponies.

The Plenipotentiary's Cup was won by Mr. Barcham's Sydney horse *Corsair* (owner up). *Queen of Clubs* (Mr. Clarke, 59th Regiment) was second and Mr. Campbell's *Pauline* (Mr. Chomley) third. Distance 2 miles. Time 4 m. 32 sec.

Mr. Fletcher's Sydney horse *Pretender* (Mr. Clarke, 59th Regiment) won the Highlander Cup—presented by Mr. A. C. Maclean—for all horses—Arabs 9 st. 4 lb., Sydney, Cape, English or stud-bred horses 11 stone.

Mr. John Dent's *Erin-go-bragh*, ridden by Mr. William Dent, was second. Distance 1½ miles. Time 3 m. 17 sec.

The Ladies' Purse was won by Mr. R. Jardine's *The Sheik* (owner).

The Civil Service Cup, presented by Members of H. M.'s Civil Service in China, for all horses—Arabs 10 st., Sydney, Cape, English or stud-bred 12 st., was also won by *Pretender* carrying 12 st. 5 lb. (5 lb. extra for his previous win).

Mr. Leslie's *Queen of Clubs* (Mr. King, 59th Regiment) 12 st. was second. Distance 1½ miles. Time 3 m. 19 sec.

Mr. Barcham's *Corsair* (owner), 12 st. 7 lb., was third.

1854.

The Wongneichong Stakes was won by Mr. Gerrard's Manila pony *Fidget* (Mr. Goddard) from two other Manila ponies. Sir George Bonham's *Temptation* (Mr. Morescaux, R.N.) carried off the Canton Cup from one other competitor.

The Valley Stakes (once round and a distance) was won by Mr. Weiner's Arab pony *Rory* in 2 m. and 10 sec. from two Manila ponies. The same pony won the Ladies' Purse.

In the next race—the Plenipotentiary's Cup—presented by Sir George Bonham, 2 miles, Mr. John Dent's 4 year old *Goldfinder*, late *Black Jack* by that sterling horse *Faugh-a-ballagh*, made his *début* on the Hongkong course, and won (Mr. F. Chomley up) in what was till then the record time of 4 m. 6 sec. carrying 11 st. 10 lb. Mr. Fletcher's *Pretender* came in first but was disqualified as he dropped 23 lbs. of lead just after the start.

Mr. Fletcher's Sydney horse *Tartar* walked over for the Celestial Cup, presented by Mr. Joseph Jardine.

The Union Cup—presented by Mr. W. Dent, for Sydney, Cape, English or stud-bred horses, was won on the third day by the same horse, carrying 11 st. 7 lb. The same owner's *Pretender* (11 st. 7 lb.) was second.

In the Hongkong Plate, *Pretender* (10 st. 7 lb.) (Mr. Stuart, R.E.) beat Mr. F. A. King's *Corsair* (Mr. F. Chomley) and Mr. Leslie's *Queen of Clubs* (owner) second and third. There were three days racing and nineteen races.

1855.

The distance of the Wongneichong Stakes was altered to once round the course. Mr. Masson's Manila pony *Hurricane* (owner up) won. The same pony and rider were successful in the Valley Stakes.

The Ladies' Purse was won by Mr. Jardine's *The Sheik* (Mr. Magniac). Mr. Magniac was a member of the firm of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co.

The Plenipotentiary's Cup was won by Mr. Jardine's Arab *Grey Friar* (9 st. 10 lb.) (Mr. Magniac). Mr. Fletcher's *Pretender* (11 st. 10 lb.) Mr. Stuart, R.E., was second. Mr. W. Dent's *Little Bo Peep* (an English horse) fell and broke both fore-legs. *Goldfinder* carrying 7 lb. extra for his former win, or 12 st. 3 lb. in all, was pulled up. This was the last occasion on which the Plenipotentiary's Cup was run for.

The Canton Cup was won by Mr. Calda's *Wild Duck* (Mr. Magniac).

The Saltonn Cup ( $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles) presented by Mr. A. Fletcher, for mixed horses—Arabs 9 st. 4 lb., Sydney, Cape, English and stud-bred

11 st., winner of Plenipotentiary's Cup 1855, 7 lb. extra—was won in a canter by *Goldfinder* (Mr. F. Chomley) in 3 m. 9 sec.

The Volunteer Cup ( $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles) was won by Mr. Fletcher's Sydney horse *Tartar* (11 st. 7 lb.) (Mr. Stuart, R.E.) from Mr. Jardine's Arab *Grey Friar* (9 st. 12 lb.) (Mr. Magniac) in 3 m. 5 sec. *Goldfinder* (11 st. 12 lb.) pulled up lame.

In the Handicap Sweepstakes and Hongkong Plate, both being races for mixed horses, Mr. Fletcher's Sydney horse *Omer Pasha* walked over. The racing among horses would seem to have been tame.

In all eighteen races were run in three days racing.

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## CHAPTER II.

### 1856-1867.

*The advent of the China pony—High class English horse racing.*

### 1856.

Mr. Mercer's Manila pony *Mat o' Manila* (Mr. Stuart, R.E.), won the Wongneichong Stakes from a Manila and an Arab pony.

The same pony won the Valley Stakes (which in this year was confined to Manila and China ponies) from three other Manila ponies.

The Canton Cup was won by Mr. Antrobus' *Druid*, well ridden by Mr. Clarke of the 59th Regiment, who appears to have been an accomplished jockey. Mr. Jardine's *Grey Friar* (Mr. Magniac) was second. Two other horses ran.

A Cup presented by the 59th Regiment: for all horses—Arabs 9 st. 7 lb.; Colonials or stud-bred 11 st.; English 11 st. 7 lb.; mares and geldings allowed 7 lb.—was won by Mr. Fletcher's *Tartar* (Mr. Stuart, R.E.). Mr. Jardine's Sydney horse *Elphin* (Mr. Magniac) was second. Mr. W. Dent's English mare *Cerito* (Captain Bushe, 59th Regiment) was third.

"The Celestial Stakes for all China ponies entrance \$2 each with \$20 added, catch weights— $\frac{1}{2}$  mile" so reads the record of the first race exclusively reserved for China ponies, run at a Hongkong meeting. Mr. Goddard's *Nina* (Mr. Lowther, R.N.) won; Captain Bolton's *Amoy Oysters* (Mr. Stuart, R.E.) was second, and Mr. Joy's (59th Regiment) *Hot Coppers* (Mr. Price, R.N.) third. There were two other ponies in the race ridden apparently by midshipmen. There is no record of the weights carried but there is the significant note "won easy—all bolted" against this historic event.

The Home Cup—a valuable gold trophy presented by Mr. John Dent—was won by a head by *Goldfinder* (11 st. 10 lb.), now the property

of Mr. F. Chouley, who rode the horse himself. Mr. Jardine's *Elphin* (11 st. 3 lb.) (Mr. R. Jardine) was second and Mr. Fletcher's *Tartar* (11 st. 10 lb.) (Mr. Stuart, R.E.) third. The English mare *Cerito* 11 st. 10 lb. was fourth. There were three other starters and the race is described as the best seen up to that date on the Hongkong turf. Distance 1½ miles. Time 3 m. 7 sec.

The following is a description of the race :—

“ Seven started for the grand prize of the meeting, the ‘Home Cup’—a splendid gold Claret Vase, of English manufacture. *Tartar* and *Goldfinder* went off with the lead, each trying to cut the other down. Near the bridge and up to the Black Rock, it looked like *Tartar*'s race, but the pluck of the thoroughbred compensated for bad feet and short work, and he drew ahead up the run-in. And here it was that *Elphin*'s rider made a magnificent rush, surpassing, though not so successful as, *Druid*'s rush of yesterday. *Elphin* up to the village turn was lying last but one, but immediately the straight run-in appeared, he passed his horses like a flash, caught *Tartar*, and beat him by three quarters of a length, and lost the race to *Goldfinder* by ‘a short half head’. *Cerito* was fourth; the rest nowhere.”

The Ladies' Purse a 1 mile Handicap for all ponies was won by Mr. Jardine's *The Sheik* (Mr. Magniac), carrying top weight of 11 st. There were thirteen entries but only four runners. A China pony—Mr. Jardine's *Toby* (10 st. 4 lb.)—ran third. This is the first record I have found of a China pony running into a place in a race for mixed ponies.

The Faiki Cup presented by the American Community for all horses was won by Mr. Jardine's *Grey Friar* (9 st.) (Mr. Magniac), Mr. Fletcher's *Tartar* (10 st. 7 lb.) (Mr. Stuart, R.E.) was second, and Mr. Cooper Turner's Arab *War Hawke* (9 st.) (Mr. Haskell) third.

The China Stakes—another race for China ponies only—weight 10 st., entrance \$3 with \$25 added, distance once round—was won by *Amoy Oysters* (Mr. Price, R.N.). *Hot Coppers* ridden by his owner was second.

This meeting is memorable for the fact that at it races were first reserved for China ponies only; and that a China pony for the first time in Hongkong was placed in a race for mixed ponies.

The meeting seems to have been a most successful one as the following extract from the local Press of the day shows, and it may fairly be assumed that the introduction of China pony racing contributed to the success :—

“ In truth all the horses had had quite enough of it; and a walk over would have been a sorry ending for one of the best Race Meetings ever held in the Colony, and one that would compare with the best country meeting in England. The attendance was numerous—beyond ordinary both in the Grand Stand and enclosure and without it; and

everybody—ladies and gentlemen, grooms and horsekeepers, Sons of Neptune and Sons of Han—seemed extremely well pleased with the sport afforded.

May 1857 be as good!"

1857.

The Wongneichong and Valley Stakes were won by Mr. Morton's Manila pony *Refugee* (Mr. Stuart, R.E.). *Druid*, with Capt. Clarke (59th Regiment) in the saddle, was again successful in the Canton Cup.

The Argyll Cup presented by Mr. A. Fletcher, brought out a field of five, and was won by Mr. Jardine's newly imported Sydney horse *Ivanhoe* late *Waverley* (10 st. 4 lb.) (Mr. Magniac). *Tartar* (10 st. 7 lb.) (Mr. Stuart, R.E.) was second and Mr. Antrobus' *Habeas Corpus* (Mr. Cox, 38th M.N.I.) third. Distance twice round. Time 3 m. 30 sec.

The Celestial Stakes, under same conditions as in the previous year, was won by Mr. Whittall's *King Tom* (Mr. Morrison).

Mr. Jardine's *Ivanhoe* (11 st. 4 lb.) (Capt. Clarke, 59th Regiment) won the St. George's Cup, beating a hot favourite in Mr. Fletcher's *Yellow Jack* (11 st.) (Mr. Stuart, R.E.) who was third. *Cerito* (11 st. 4 lb.) (Mr. Joy, 59th Regiment) was second. Distance 2 miles. Time 4 m. 10 sec.

The Farewell Flagon presented by Mr. W. T. Mercer,—the only remaining member at the time of the original Race Committee—was won by Mr. Fletcher's *Tartar* (Mr. Stuart, R.E.), Mr. Jardine's *Elphin* (Capt. Clarke, 59th Regiment) being second.

Mr. Jardine's pony *The Sheik* (Mr. Magniac) won the Ladies' Purse for the third time in succession.

The Parsee Cup (for all horses, Arabs 9 st. 7 lb., Colonials or stud-bred 10 st. 12 lb., English 11 st. 7 lb.) presented by the Parsee Community figured for the first time in the programme at this meeting. Mr. Jardine's *Ivanhoe* (Mr. Magniac) won from *Omer Pasha* (Captain Barcham) and *Habeas Corpus* (Captain Clarke), dead heat for second place, *Corsair* fourth and *Yellow Jack* fifth. All these horses carried 10 st. 12 lb. Distance 1½ miles. Time 3 m. 8 sec. The entries comprised three other Sydney horses, three English horses, an Arab and a stud-bred.

The China Stakes for all China ponies, under the same conditions as in the previous year, was won by Mr. Joy's (59th Regiment) *Sweeties* (late *Amoy Oysters*) (Mr. Cumming, 59th Regiment).

The Fakie Cup was won by Mr. Norton's Sydney horse *Redgauntlet* 10 st. 9 lb. (Mr. Mackenzie), Mr. W. Dent's English mare *Cerito* (11 st. 4 lb.) (Mr. Joy, 59th Regiment) being second. There were three other runners. Distance 2½ miles. Time 5 m. 20 sec.

A Forced Handicap for all horses was won by *Cerito* (Mr. Joy), and in a match on the day after the meeting between *Redgauntlet* and *Cerito* over the Fakie Cup distance, the mare won in 5 m. 14 sec.

Seventeen races were run in the three days of the meeting.

1858.

The Wongneichong Stakes was won by Mr. Mackenzie's pony *Postilion* (Mr. Stuart, R.E.). This pony as far as I can gather was of Japanese breed.

The Canton Cup was won by Mr. Chomley's *Sir Michael* (late *Eugene Aram*) (Capt. Cox, 38th M.N.I.). Mr. R. Jardine's *Merry Monk* (Mr. Magniac) was second.

The Macao Cup, presented by Mr. E. Pereira, was won by Mr. Mackenzie's Sydney horse *Sydney* (owner up): Mr. Gibb's Sydney horse *Mozart* (Capt. Cox, 38th M.N.I.) was second, and Mr. R. Jardine's *Ivanhoe* (Capt. Clarke, 59th Regiment) third. Distance twice round, Time 3 m. 59 sec.

The same horse won the Parsee Cup carrying 10 st. 9 lb. from *Redgauntlet* 10 st. 9 lb. second, Mr. R. Jardine's English horse *Snowdon* (11 st. 7 lb., Captain Clarke, 59th Regiment) third, Mr. Gibb's Sydney horse *Beelzebub* (Captain Cox, M.N.I.) and Mr. Cooper Turner's *Lord Elgin* (Mr. Hall, R.A.). Distance 1½ miles. Time 3 m. 1 sec.—the fastest time on record at that date for the Hongkong course.

Mr. Mackenzie's Sydney horse *Canrobert* (11 st.), owner up, won the Border Cup (gold) presented by Mr. R. Jardine for all horses, Arabs 9 st. 7 lb., stud-bred 10 st. 7 lb., Colonials 11 st., English 11 st. 7 lb. Mr. Gibb's *Mozart* (11 st., Capt. Cox, 38th M.N.I.) was second, and *Ivanhoe* (11 st., Capt. Clarke, 59th Regiment) third. Distance 2 miles. Time 4 m. 6 sec. With the same horse Mr. Mackenzie scored another success in the Fakai Cup, *Ivanhoe* ridden by Mr. R. Jardine himself being second, and Mr. Cooper Turner's *Lord Elgin* (Mr. Hall, R.A.) third.

The Valley Stakes was won by the Manila pony *Mat o' Manila*, from one China and two Manila ponies.

Mr. Gibb's *Mozart* (10 st. 9 lb.) (Capt. Cox, 38th M.N.I.) won the Farewell Cup presented by Mr. A. Hudson. *Sydney* (11 st. 2 lb.) and *Redgauntlet* (10 st. 9 lb.) were second and third respectively, and the English horse *Snowdon* (11 st. 7 lb.) last. The same horse won a forced Handicap over 1½ miles in 3 m. 3 sec. carrying 11 st. 10 lb.

The China Stakes, for China ponies only, was won by Mr. Gibb's *Yep* from *King Tom* and *Miss Min*. The Ladies' Purse was won by Mr. Fletcher's *Wee Pet* (Mr. Stuart, R.E.). There were six races on each of the three days of this meeting of which the following is a short account taken from the local Press :—

"The cunning prognostications of the professed "judges of horse-flesh," as usual proved to be all fudge, and some of the most "knowing" had their fingers pretty severely burnt. Of the old favourites, much was expected but little gained, for their sun was entirely eclipsed by late importations—four of the six Cups—the "Macao", "Border", "Parsee", and "Fakai"—having been carried off by horses from Shanghai, jockeyed by their spirited owner. For the "Farewell", there was a severe tug betwixt *Mozart* and *Sydney*, the former beating

his antagonist barely by a head. The “Canton” fell to the lot of *Sir Michael*. How far the unexpected “licking” which the Hongkong-its have received was owing to want of training, we are not learned enough in such matters to pronounce; but to that it is generally imputed. Beaten, however, they were, and that most shamefully; and if over-confidence were the cause, the lesson may not perhaps be lost upon our jockeys. The pony races were remarkably good but unfortunately we had no “Sporting Correspondent” on the field to record for us the feats of jockeyship. Luckily, however, all went off pleasantly—no spills even, save in the race for the “Native Purse”, when several Celestials were suddenly transformed into Terrestrials, to their own amazement and the intense amusement of the lookers-on.”

### 1859.

Mr. Hudson’s *Bustard* won the Wongneichong Stakes. I have been unable to ascertain of what breed this pony was; but it is probable that he was a China pony. The Valley Stakes fell to Mr. Costerton’s *Flash of Lightning* (Mr. Markham). This pony was a China pony, and his is the first recorded victory of a China pony in this historic race.

The Canton Cup was won by Mr. Dent’s *Sir Michael* (Mr. Garstin). Mr. Jardine’s *Dervish* (Mr. Magniac) was second.

The Admiral’s Cup—presented by Sir Michael Seymour—for all horses Arabs 9 st., Colonials 10 st. 7 lb., English 11 st. 2 lb., 1½ miles—was won by Mr. Muirhouse’s English horse *Snowdon* 11 st. 2 lb. (Mr. R. Jardine), Captain King’s English horse *Sunrise* was second and the Sydney horse *Mozart* (Mr. W. Mackenzie) third. Mr. Muirhouse was apparently a member of the firm of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. as his colours were Blue and Silver.

The Challenge Cup appears as an item on the programme for the first time at this Meeting.

The race was open to all horses—Arabs 9 st., stud-bred 10 st., Colonials 10 st. 7 lb., English 11 st.,—to be won 2 years in succession by a horse or horses, the *bona fide* property of the same owner—2 miles. There was however no race for the cup and *Snowdon* walked over.

The Ladies’ Purse was won by Mr. Muirhouse’s *Afghan* (Mr. Mackenzie).

The Shanghai Cup, presented by the Shanghai Community, for all horses, was won by Mr. Fortescue’s *Ivanhoe* (Mr. W. Mackenzie). The same horse won the “Home Cup”.

The China Stakes fell to *Flash of Lightning* (Mr. Markham).

In the Retiring Cup, a Handicap, Mr. Jardine’s English mare *Rowena* (Mr. W. Mackenzie) beat the English mare *Sunrise*.

There were only two days racing in this year, comprising thirteen races, and the sport would appear to have been very poor.

There was no Parsee Cup.

1860.

In the Jockey Club records of this meeting and of subsequent meetings up to and including 1870, no particulars of the breed of the horses or ponies running, nor, in a great many instances, of the weights and colours they carried, nor of the names of the jockeys who rode them, are recorded.

The Wongneichong and Valley Stakes were won by Mr. Conrad's *Negro* (Mr. Ramsay). The same pony won the Valley Stakes. It is probable that this pony and the winners of these two races in subsequent years down to 1865, when we have Sir Paul Chater's testimony that none but China ponies ran, were China ponies. The Canton Cup was won by Mr. Chomley's *Sir Michael* (Capt. Garstin). The Caledonian Cup, value 100 guineas, presented by a member of the Race Club for all horses, Arabs 9 st., Colonials 9 st. 10 lb., English 11 st. 7 lb., was won by Captain King's *Stockham* (Captain Garstin) from Mr. Muirhouse's *Snowdon* (Mr. Mackenzie), distance 1½ miles, time 3 m. 2 sec.

The same pair fought out a fine struggle in the Challenge Cup over a 2 mile course, *Stockham* again winning. Mr. Beresford's *Robin Hood* (Mr. Magniac) was third. Mr. Beresford's colours were Blue and Silver and he must therefore have been a member of the firm of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co.

The Parsee Cup was won by *Templar* (Capt. Garstin), Mr. Leslie's *Huntsman* (Mr. Ramsay) being second. The Western Cup presented, twice round and a distance, was won by Mr. Muirhouse's *Snowdon* (Mr. Magniac).

The China Stakes fell to Mr. Overbeck's *Lady Emily* (Mr. Ramsay).

The Souvenir Cup—likewise presented—Arabs 9 st. 4 lb., Colonials 10 st. 7 lb., English 11 st. 5 lb. (previous winners at this meeting 5 lb. extra) 1½ miles, was won by Captain King's *Stockham* (Captain Garstin), Mr. Beresford's *Robin Hood* (Mr. Magniac) was second, and Mr. Muirhouse's *Rowena* (Mr. Mackenzie) third. Time 3 m.

*Rowena*, of whom great things had been expected, met with an accident a month before the races which much interfered with her training. Mr. Chance's *Pearl* (Captain Williams) won the Ladies' Purse.

1861.

The Wongneichong Stakes for all ponies was won by Mr. Ramsay's "Saucebox", owner up.

The Canton Cup (value as usual \$250) was won by Captain King's *Forester* (Mr. Trubshaw). Mr. Muirhouse's *Dervish* (Mr. Mackenzie) was second. Distance 1½ miles. Time 3 m. 1 sec.

The Royals' Cup—presented by the Officers 2nd Batt., the Royal Regiment, for all horses—Arabs 9 st., Colonials 10 st. 9 lb., English 11st. 9 lb., was won by Capt. King's English horse *Garibaldi* (Mr. Chomley), *Templar* was second and Mr. Fortescue's *Ivanhoe* (Mr. Mackenzie) third.

The Fakel Cup was won by Mr. Muirhouse's *Snowdon* (Mr. Mackenzie), Captain King's *Stockham* (Mr. Trubshaw) was second.

The Challenge Cup, under the same conditions as in the previous year, was won by Mr. Beresford's *Robin Hood* (Mr. Mackenzie), Capt. King's *Garibaldi* (Mr. Chomley) was second, and Mr. Muirhouse's *Snowdon* (Mr. Auchinleck) was third. Distance 2 miles. Time 4 m.

*Robin Hood* and *Garibaldi* were also first and second in the Barristers Cup—value \$100.

The Valley Stakes, for Manila and China ponies, was won by Mr. Ramsay's *Saucebox* (owner) carrying 7 st. 7 lb.

The Parsee Cup for all horses, English excepted, Arabs 10 st. others 11 st. was won by Mr. Ho Nam's *Templar* (Mr. Barcham) after a fine race. Mr. Beresford's *Gratis* (Mr. Auchinleck) was second. The last named horse won the Revenir Cup, for all horses, beating *Templar*, *Stockham* and *Rowena* in the order named.

The Ladies' Purse was won by Mr. Muirhouse's *Afghan* (Mr. Mackenzie).

There were altogether twenty-one races in the three days racing. There was no race exclusively for China ponies.

## 1862.

In the rules for this meeting a new one appears prohibiting any groom or professional rider from riding in the training after the 1st December till the date of the meeting (18th February). This is the first meeting at which races for the now historic trophies, the Garrison Cup and the German Cup, are recorded. It was also remarkable for the immense increase in the value of many of the Cups.

The Wongneichong and Valley Stakes were won by Mr. Overbeck's *Mangosteen* (Mr. Wortham).

The Canton Cup—value 150 guineas—was won by Capt. King's *Forester*, with the same rider in the saddle.

The Garrison Cup, value 130 guineas, presented by the Garrison of Hongkong for all horses, Arabs 9 st., Colonials 10 st. 9 lb., English 11 st. 9 lb., winners in 1861, except Colonials or Arabs, of one cup 5 lb., of two or more cups 7 lb., extra. This race was won by Capt. King's English horse *Eskdale* (Mr. Wortham), Mr. Muirhouse's *Gratis* (Mr. Mackenzie) was second, and Mr. Overbeck's *Deerfoot* (Mr. Ramsay) was third. There were two other runners, distance 1½ miles. Time 2 m. 59 sec.

The Fakel Cup was won by *Templar* (Mr. Maedowell), *Snowdon* (Mr. Mackenzie) being second.

The Challenge Cup was fought out between the same three horses as in the previous year and was won by Captain King's English horse *Garibaldi* (Mr. Wortham). Mr. Muirhouse's *Robin Hood* (Mr. Mackenzie) and *Snowdon* (Mr. Magniac) being second and third. Distance 2 miles. Time 4 m.

Captain King's *Eskdale* (Mr. Wortham) won the Barristers Cup, —value 100 guineas, for all horses, Arabs 9 st. 4 lb., Colonials 10 st. 7 lb., English 11 st. 7 lb.—carrying 11 st. 7 lb. Captain Taylor's *Mercury* (Mr. Morgan) was second. Distance from the Black Rock twice round and in. Time 5 m. 5 sec.

The Parsee Cup was won by Mr. Muirhouse's *Gratis* (Mr. Mackenzie).

The Emerald Cup value 100 guineas for all horses, Arabs 9 st., Colonials 10 st. 5 lb., English 11 st. Distance 2 miles. Mr. Beresford's *Gratis* (10 st. 6 lb.), (Mr. Magniac) won this race, *Garibaldi* 11 st. 4 lb. (Mr. Wortham) being second, and *Robin Hood* (10 st., 11 lb., Mr. Mackenzie) third. *Gratis* was sent out to make the running but got so far away that *Garibaldi* could not catch him.

The German Cup value 150 guineas presented by the German Community for all horses, Arabs 9 st., Colonials 10 st., English 11 st. distance 1½ miles, was won in a canter by Capt. King's *Eskdale* (Mr. Wortham). *Templar* (Mr. Macdowell) was second, and Mr. Overbeek's *Deerfoot* (Mr. Ramsay) third. Time 3 m. 39 sec.

Mr. Muirhouse's *Afghan* (Mr. Mackenzie) again won the Ladies' Purse.

There were twenty-three races at this meeting during the three days. One race, the Speculation Plate, was reserved for China ponies only and won by *Phantom*.

### 1863.

The Wongneichong Stakes was won by Mr. Houstown's *The Admiral* (Mr. Higson). Mr. Houstown's colours were Blue and Silver.

The Canton Cup—value 100 guineas—was won by Capt. King's *Forester* (Capt. Wortham).

The Garrison Cup—value 100 guineas—for all horses, Arabs 9 st., Colonials 10 st., English horses 4 years and under 10 st. 7 lb., 5 years 11 st., 6 years and aged 11 st. 2 lb. Distance 1½ miles.

This race brought out a new importation in Mr. Percy's English horse *North Pole*, which, with Captain Purcell up, beat Capt. King's *Eskdale* (11 st. 2 lb.) (Capt. Wortham). Time 2 m. 52 sec.

In the Fakie Cup—value \$700—Mr. Beresford's English horse *Sir William* (Mr. Higson) made his *début*, beating Captain King's English horse *Niger* (Captain Wortham) second, and the Sydney horses *Templar* and *Teddington*. Distance 1½ miles. Time 2 m. 42 sec.

*Sir William* (11 st.) (Mr. Higson) repeated his success in the Challenge Cup beating Captain King's *Garibaldi* (11 st.) (Captain Wortham) by a distance, and the same owner's *Niger* (11 st.) (Mr. Dodd). Distance 2 miles. Time 3 m. 52 sec.

The Speculation Plate for China ponies only was won by *Spanish Student* ridden by Mr. C. Cohen. Mr. Forbes' *Cherwell* (Mr. C. Johnson) was second, and *Skittles* (Mr. W. M. Morgan) third,

The Barristers Cup, value 100 guineas, for all horses Arabs 9 st., Colonials 10 st., English, 4 years and under, 10 st. 7 lb., 5 years 11 st., 6 years and aged, 11 st. 2 lb., from the Black Rock twice round and in, was won by Mr. Percy's English 4 year old *North Pole* 10 st. 7 lb. (Capt. Purcell). Capt. King's *Eskdale* 11 st. 2 lb. (Capt. Wortham) was second. Time 4 m. 24 sec. Another English 4 year old, Major Kempson's *Glenealy*, late *Schehallion*, was entered in this race but did not run.

The Parsee Cap was won by Mr. Overbeck's *Deerfoot* (Mr. Dodd).

At this meeting the Foochow Cup—value 300 guineas—made its first appearance. As its name denotes, it was presented by the Foochow Community. It was for all horses, English horses excepted, Arabs 9 st. 7 lb., stud-bred 10 st. 3 lb., Colonials 10 st. 10 lb., from the Black Rock twice round and in. Captain King's *Forester* 9 st. 7 lb. won by the good riding of his jockey, Mr. Dodd. Mr. Beresford's *Gratis* (Mr. Higson) was second.

The Valley Stakes for Manila and China ponies was won by *Spanish Student* (Mr. Morgan).

The Patna Cup—value 70 guineas—presented by a subscriber, for all horses, Arabs 9 st., Colonials 10 st., English 4 year 10 st. 10 lb., 5 years and upwards 11 st. 5 lb., was won by Mr. Percy's *Pons Asinorum* (Capt. Purcell). The only other starter was *Garibaldi* 11 st. 5 lb. (Mr. Dodd).

The Shanghai Cup—value 100 guineas—presented by the Shanghai Community for all horses, Arabs 9 st., Colonials 10 st., English 11 st., was won by Mr. Percy's *North Pole* (Captain Purcell) from Capt. King's *Eskdale* (Mr. Dodd).

The Ladies' Purse was won by Mr. St. Leger's *Reindeer* (Dr. McDowell). The China pony *Spanish Student* (Mr. Morgan) was second. Mr. St. Leger's colours were Blue and Silver.

The ladies who presented the Ladies' Purse to successful jockeys in those days made longer speeches than is now the vogue. Witness the following extract from the *China Mail* :—

"Miss Pollard, in presenting the Ladies' Purse to Dr. McDowell, the rider of *Reindeer*, said that on behalf of the ladies of Hongkong, she had to present the purse, not only as a mark of the interest they took in the sport itself, but also as an acknowledgment of the great pleasure they had had in witnessing the races at that meeting. The Donor of the purse had likewise (she continued) begged her to say, that the victor in any struggle was certain of their sympathies and favour, whenever the contest was carried out with that spirit of generous rivalry which had distinguished those friendly, though ardent struggles they had, that week, had so much pleasure in meeting.

The ladies, however, while they recognised the delicacy of the compliment which had sent so formidable a competitor as *Reindeer*, from afar, to compete for their prize, had no doubt that his success would stimulate and arouse all the gallantry of the Colony, to try to keep, in the island, those good wishes of theirs, which must go with that purse to their successful champion, stranger though he were."

There were twenty-four races in the three days. There was no German Cup.

### 1864.

The rule prohibiting professional riders from riding in the training after the 1st December to date of meeting, was altered to "after the date of closing of the entries to date of meeting".

The Wongneichong Stakes was won by the Confederates' *Timor* (Mr. Johnson) 7 st.

The Canton Cup was won by Mr. Barlow's *Hadji* (Captain Alexander).

The 99th Lancashire Cup—value 100 guineas—presented by the Officers 99th Regiment for all horses, Arabs 9 st., Colonials and Americans 10 st., English horses 4 years old and under 10 st. 7 lb., 5 years 11 st., 6 years and aged 11 st. 2 lb., distance 1½ miles, was won by Capt. King's English horse *Haddington* 11 st. (Mr. Dodd), Mr. Percey's *North Pole* (Mr. Kelly, 99th Regiment) second. *Haddington* won the Great Metropolitan in England and ran second to *Asteroid* for the Chester Cup.

Another new importation was *Buckstone* (re-named *Surprise*), well known in England. The horse was injured on the voyage and never ran in Hongkong. His owner, Mr. Beresford, was particularly unfortunate for another good horse, *Investment*, brought out by him at the same time, who ran second to *Tom Whiffler* in the Chester Cup, 1862, died at sea.

The Fakie Cup for all horses was won by Capt. King's Sydney horse *Anecdote*. Mr. Beresford's English horse *Sir William* (Mr. Magniac) was second. *Sir William* was left at the post.

The Challenge Cup, under the same conditions as formerly, was won by Mr. Percey's *North Pole* 11 st. (Mr. Kelly, 99th Regiment), from Capt. King's *Haddington* 11 st. (Mr. Dodd) second, and Mr. Beresford's *Chieftain* (late *Millionaire*) 11 st. (Mr. Magniac) third. Distance 2 miles. Time 3 m. 55 sec. Mr. Percey's colours were Blue and Silver.

The Glenealy Cup, value 100 guineas, presented by a former subscriber for Arabs only—winner of the Canton Cup barred—was won by Capt. King's *Forester*.

The Barristers Cup (under the same conditions as in the previous year) value 100 guineas, was won by *Haddington* (11 st.) with *Chieftain* (11 st. 2 lb.) second.

The *Tetoy Plate*—presented no doubt by the owner of that sterling pony—value 250 dollars—for all ponies, Arabs excepted—1½ miles—was won by Mr. Hammond's *Cobweb* (Mr. Hemsley). *Spanish Student* (Mr. Morgan) was second. It is not stated what breed *Cobweb* was, but he was probably a China Pony.

The Parsee Cup for all horses, English excepted, was won by *Scamp* from *Anecdote* and *Templar*.

The Bisnee Cup, value 70 guineas, presented by a subscriber for all horses, was won by Mr. Beresford's *Sir William* (11 st. 5 lb.).

The German Cup value £200, for all horses, Arabs 9 st., Colonials 10 st. 7 lb., English 11 st. 3 lb., winners 7 lbs. extra, was won by *North Pole* with *Haddington* second. Each carried 11 st. 10 lb.

The Foochow Cup, value 150 guineas, for all horses—English excepted—was won by Major Kempson's *Traveller*. Mr. Percey's *Pons Asinorum* was second.

The Valley Stakes was won by Mr. Hammond's *Cobiceb*.

The Portuguese Cup, value \$600, presented by the Portuguese Community for all horses, Arabs 9 st., Stud-bred 10 st., Colonials and Americans 10 st. 4 lb. and English 11 st., was won by Mr. Beresford's *Sir William*, 11 st.

The Shanghai Cup, value 100 guineas, was won by Mr. Beresford's *Chieftain* (late *Millionaire*) from *Sir William* second, and *Haddington* third. Each carried 11 st.

The Ladies' Purse was won by Captain King's *Aga*.

Mr. Beresford's *Surprise* (late *Buckstone*) was entered in all the principal races, but did not run.

The following extract from the *China Mail* shows that in this year the first race meeting at Peking was held.

The Student Interpreters seem to have distinguished themselves by that lightheartedness which has ever since been their characteristic:—

"I see from the papers that a parcel of boys at Peking have just celebrated the First Annual Races of that Metropolis to the huge astonishment of gaping groups of Mongolians, Tartars and Tibetans. The farce of the thing is that, taking their cue from Sir F. Bruce, they have had a delicate fling at the missionary body by the simple method of naming one of the ponies the *Rev. Mr. Mitchell*. I've seen the day when I would have enjoyed that as an exquisite joke; indeed, even yet I acknowledge the humour of the thing so decidedly that I should have put all my money on the divine had I been at Peking. The *Rev. Mr. Mitchell* would not have sold me either, for he won a half-mile race and came in third in a handicap. I regret to notice that the semi-profanity of which that student interpreter was guilty who called his pony the *Rev. Mr. Mitchell*, has proved contagious and been carried to decidedly profane lengths by his fellow interpreters, for one of them has named his animal after the arch enemy of mankind, while another seems to express some occult sneer at somebody in designating his pony *Excommunicated*. I hope that the young man does not contemplate the pursuit of a career which shall end in ecclesiastical excommunication. In any event there is an evident relish for profanity indicated in so naming the ponies; and the want of a Protestant clergyman in the Legation is clearly beginning to tell. I fear that Sir Frederick has only too much resemblance to Gallio of old, and that he "cares for none of these things". We live in strange times, brethren!"

From Peking I might pass on to Newchwang, where the turf is recognised; then to Yokohama, Tientsin, Kiukiang, and all the other places with the smallest pretensions to consequence as English settlements. Long live English Chivalry, with all its inspiriting and ennobling influences; and may it ever be borne by England's sons to every shore on which they settle, whether in the physical form of training horses and ponies, or in its moral development in the mind and manners."

### 1865.

The Jockey Club records only contain an incomplete record of the first two races at this meeting.

The meeting was the first attended by Sir Paul Chater. He informs me that all the ponies that ran at it, and at all subsequent meetings, were China ponies.

The Wongneichong Stakes, for all ponies, was won by Mr. Rarey's China pony *Magic*. The Canton Cup fell to Captain King's *Forester*. The Hongkong Club Cup, for all horses, was won by *Exeter*.

The Subscription Cup, presented, value 100 guineas, for all China and Manila ponies, twice round and a distance, was won by *Cromwell*.

The German Cup—value 100 guineas, for Colonial horses only— $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles, was won by *Warrior* with *Scamp* second and *Pathfinder* third.

The Challenge Cup—value 500 guineas, for all horses Arabs 9 st., Colonials under 5 years 10 st., 5 years and upwards 10 st. 4 lb., English horses under 5 years 11 st., 5 years and upwards 11 st. 7 lb. 2 miles.

*Haddington* won with *Exeter* second and *Chieftain* (late *Millionaire*) third. Time 3 m. 58 sec.

The Barristers Cup—value \$500—was won by *Sir William*.

The Parsee Cup for all horses, English excepted, was won by *Warrior*.

The Ladies' Purse, a handicap for all ponies, was won by *Aga*.

The Fakei Cup was won by *Anecdote*.

The Foochow Cup, for all horses, English excepted, was won by *Exeter*.

The Valley Stakes, for all China and Manila ponies, once round and a distance, was won by *Cromwell*.

The Shanghai Cup—presented by the Shanghai Community, value 100 guineas, for all horses, 2 miles—was won by *Sir William*, who also achieved the remarkable performance of winning the next race, the Stewards Plate— $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles.

The following are some reflections on this meeting from the pen of a correspondent to the *China Mail* :—

"In many respects, the Races of one year differ little from those of former seasons; and except in the list of winning horses, it is always the same thing over again, to the same observer, unless he changes his

point of view. Were my imagination more fertile and my style sufficiently versatile, a retrospect of the Races might be rendered interesting by making a many-sided picture of the annual *fête* as it strikes the mind and affects the spirits of different persons.

There is the ambitious juvenile who has just attained to a desk in a respectable mercantile house here. He has already caught the smack of Anglo-Eastern manners, and does not make more mistakes in acquiring the conventionalities of his set than a newly-fledged ensign does in familiarising himself with the tons of his mess and the bearing, generally, of an officer and gentleman. Our juvenile's rawness is most perceptible when he makes an unusually strong attempt to seem perfectly accustomed to this sort of thing.

He picks up phrases and modes of putting propositions by the simple plan of listening to the talk of older bands, but somehow or other, he never succeeds in using the style of his seniors so effectively and naturally as to impose upon any but those still greener than himself over whom he thereby establishes a mild tyranny ; and this yoke the victim may at almost any time find the means of throwing off. Next year, our friend will be an adept in taking the odds, and in two or three years more will think himself proficient in matters turfy. There is always a slight mystery to me about the betting transactions of the Hongkong youth ; and I never have sought to unveil this mystery.

The nearest approach to a solution which it ever received was the discovery that one young member of the local sporting world had bets to the amount of seven thousand dollars in his books, half of which sum was against the favourite and the other half against the field. On settling day he paid the one side with his gains on the other, and earned the respect of both parties, who viewed him respectively as a man of discernment and as a man of promptitude in settling his debts of honour. In my opinion, it is as well for a young man to get smartly bitten when he goes in for betting as much as his year's salary, as has been known in Hongkong in old times ; and I pity the youth who wins a pot of money, because the day of his grief is only postponed.

The Races might be viewed from the hard, practical stand-point of the veteran sporting man, who enters his horse and takes all the odds he can get against him, leaving no stone unturned to have his horse come in as winner.

He is ready to buy up horses that stand in his way, buy them with their engagements and scratch them in the races they are likely to win. It is with grim joy I see those untiring devotees of the Colonial turf weaving their plans and subduing the issues to themselves.

No series of contingencies can take them unawares or throw their plans into confusion. They will alter their programme of operations at the eleventh hour, so that, if fall they must, their fall will be soft. The races have kept their wits alive and their nerves well-strung for the last two months.

The sterling qualities of a horse are naturally their first consideration ; but this has to be qualified by the animal's state of health—his condition as it is called—as the day of meeting approaches. It also happens that horses are subject to fits of temper, which may either make them run with a will or decline to start at all. The state of the weather may so affect the course as to give the advantage to horses of a certain stamp. And last, though not least, the jockey's abilities often weigh so decidedly in the scale as to turn the race against a really superior horse.

Surely the variety of probabilities just named is sufficient to keep the results of a race in doubt up to the last moment. I have said nothing with regard to the labour and skill of the trainers, which is perhaps the most important point of all. The more experienced turf men had most of their plans upset this year in a manner that must have been a little provoking.

Horses, against which they had confidently taken the field, would persist in winning. Favourites whom they backed against the field would only make bad seconds or good thirds. The times proved to be completely out of joint, and the profits fell to the lot of less experienced men. Your H. M. says he knew from the first that *Haddington* would win the Challenge Cup, that he therefore bet on him all through, and thereby incapacitated himself, as he insists upon thinking, from writing impartially. He thinks of making a sporting tour to Shanghae for the purpose of spoiling the Egyptians there. He had better take care. I have heard of people who came for wool going away shorn ; many a man has retreated from Baden with nothing in his carpet-bag but a shirt-collar and a tooth-brush. I am glad to hear that no large sums have changed hands this year, partly because a feeling against heavy betting has begun to prevail, and partly because the luck was more evenly distributed.

There are other points of view from which to witness the annual sports. The man who does not bet, put money in sweepstakes, or buy other people's chances in the same, may be supposed to find the races very tame, and barren of enjoyment. Such I find, by personal experience, is not the case. In viewing the excitement of others as they go about in quest of suitable bets, their momentary anxiety when their horse loses the race, their attempts to recover themselves by a good stiff bet on the next race, and their success or failure in that communicate a gentle excitement to the onlooker which is more or less evenly sustained throughout the whole course of the meeting. It is this kind of excitement that the Chinese experience, for they do not bet upon horses,—only upon fighting crickets.

Strangers from the "Ports" are pleasant to see. They either do not bet or they fritter away their dollars in impromptu sweepstakes. Mariners also show in considerable force, and drop their money or win other people's with equal good humour.

All their attempts to disguise themselves as horsey men, fail to conceal the sons of Neptune.

Of the Races as viewed from the Black Rock, I have not the opportunity of speaking, not having seen them from that *coin d'avantage*. Nor can I describe them as seen by the Judges, the Stewards or the two starters. Regarding the latter, a more complete acquaintance with their business and stricter attention to it when that acquaintance has been acquired, would be of immense advantage to all concerned.

The manner in which the duty of starter was discharged gave such universal dissatisfaction, that some of those who gained by the same would have returned their winnings, in some instances, had this been consistent with the laws of the turf,—at least, so they said.

The tiffins laid down in the tents adjoining the different stables were the most pleasing feature that came under my notice. The arrival of the English Mail, however, prevents me from enlarging further."

### 1866.

The Wongneichong Stakes was won by the Confederates' China pony *Carur de Lion*. Mr. Percey's *Early Purl* carried off the Canton, Cup.

The German Cup—value 200 guineas—for all horses—Arabs 9 st., Colonials under 5 years, 10 st., 5 years and upwards, 10 st. 4 lb., English horses under 5 years, 11 st., 5 years and upwards, 11 st. 7 lb., was won by Mr. Muirhouse's *Sir William* (Capt. Granville), *Traveller* was second, and Capt. King's *Pomeroy* third. 1½ miles. Time 2 m. 57 sec.

The Parsee Cup for all horses—English excepted—was won by Mr. Rarey's Sydney horse *Exeter*—Mr. Percey's *Pons Asinorum* was 2nd. Distance 1½ miles. Time 2 m. 28 sec.

The Challenge Cup, value 500 guineas, for all horses, weights the same as in the German Cup—to be won 2 years consecutively by a horse or horses the *bona fide* property of the same owner. Distance 2 miles. Mr. Rarey's *Exeter* won, with Mr. Muirhouse's *Sir William* second and Capt. King's *Haddington* third.

The Brokers Cup, value \$500, for all horses, was won by Captain Granville's *Traveller*. Distance 1¾ miles. Time 3 m. 27 sec.

The Fakai Cup was won by Mr. Rarey's *Exeter*. Distance 1¼ miles. Time 2 m. 24½ sec.

The Valley Stakes was won by Mr. Button's *Rob Roy*, and the Ladies' Purse by Captain King's *Aga*.

The Foochow Cup, value 100 guineas, for all horses, English excepted, was won by Captain King's *Pathfinder*.

The Shanghai Cup—value 100 guineas—a handicap for all horses, distance 2 miles, was won by Mr. Muirhouse's *Sir William*. Captain King's *Pathfinder* was second.

There were twenty races in the three days, one—The Northern Stakes—being confined to China ponies.

1867.

The Wongneicong Stakes was won by Captain King's *Blue Funk*.

The Valley Stakes was won by Mr. Alexander's *The Rejected*.

The Canton Cup was won by *Early Purl*.

The German Cup—value 200 guineas, for all horses, Arabs 9 st., Colonials 10 st. 4 lb., English 11 st. 7 lb. Mr. Rarey's *Exeter* won, Mr. Muirhouse's *Chieftain* (late *Millionaire*) was second and Mr. Bold's *Dundee* third.

This meeting saw the introduction of the Lusitanian (now Lusitano) Cup—presented by the members of the Club Lusitano for all horses, Arabs 9 st., Colonials 10 st. and English 11st. Mr. Muirhouse's *Sir William* won, with Mr. Baker's *Havannah* second and Mr. Rennie's *Scamp* third.

The Challenge Cup, value 500 guineas, weights as in the previous year : Distance 2 milos. Mr. Rarey's *Exeter* won from Mr. Rarey's *Pathfinder* (Mr. Maitland) second, and Mr. Muirhouse's *Sir William* (Mr. Smith) third.

The Parsee Cup was won by Mr. Baker's *Havannah*.

The Ashley Cup, value 100 guineas, presented by Mr. A. Sassoon, for all horses, Arabs 8 st. 7 lb., Colonials 10 st. 4 lb., English 11 st. 10 lb. 1½ miles.

*Exeter* and *Early Purl* were the only starters—the former won.

The Fakel Cup for all horses was won by *Exeter*, *Haddington* being second.

The Foochow Cup, value 100 guineas, for all horses was won by Capt. King's *Pomeroy* (Mr. Davidson).

The Shanghai Cup, value 100 guineas, was won by *Exeter* with his stable companion *Pathfinder* second.

The Ladies' Purse was won by *Busy Bee*.

There were twenty races, two of which, the Subscription Cup and the Northern Plate, were confined to China ponies. The meeting seems to have been rather a tame one, the fields in the races for horses being small. In three races there were only two starters in each. *Exeter* fairly swept the board, winning five races.

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CHAPTER III.

1868-1886.

*The decline and gradual extinction of horse racing.*

1868.

The well known names of Mr. W. Keswick, Mr. P. Ryrie and Mr. Attwell Coxon appear among the names of the stewards at this meeting. There was a great falling off in the entries of horses, foreshadowed by the small fields at the preceding meeting.

The Wongneichong Stakes (once round) was won by Mr. Alexander's *Alarm*. All the ponies entered were China ponies.

For the time honoured Canton Cup only one jockey weighed out—the rider of *Early Purl*—and as the conditions stipulated for two starters there was no race.

For the German Cup, reduced in value to 100 guineas, no English horse was entered. The race was won by Mr. Derwent's Sydney horse *Birmingham*. Mr. Rarey's *Pathfinder* was second, and Mr. Baker's *Havannah* third.

The Valley Stakes was won by *The Rejected*. All the entries, as in the case of the Wongneichong, were China ponies. The distance heretofore once round and a distance was reduced to half-a-mile.

The Perthshire Cup presented by the Officers of the 73rd Highlanders for Arabs only, was won by Mr. Hart's *Sultan*.

The Lusitanian Cup was won by *Exeter*.

The Challenge Cup—value 500 guineas, for all horses, Arabs 9 st., Colonials under 5 years, 10 st., 5 years and upwards, 10 st. 4 lb., English horses under 5 years, 10 st. 7 lb., 5 years and upwards, 10 st. 11 lb.—Mr. Derwent's Sydney horse, *Birmingham* (Mr. Morgan) 10 st. 4 lb. won, Mr. Rarey's Sydney horse *Exeter* (Mr. Cock) 10 st. 4 lb. being second and Mr. Overbeck's English horse *Haddington* (Mr. Dodd) 10 st. 11 lb. third. The reduction in weight for English horses is to be noted.

The Parsee Cup for all horses, English excepted, was won by Mr. Baker's *Havannah* (Mr. Waller).

Another sign of the times is to be found in the Garrison Cup—reduced in value to \$150—confined to China and Manila ponies, but competed for by China ponies only. Indeed none other were entered. The Cup was won by Mr. Alexander's *Alarm* (Mr. Maitland).

The Fakai Cup, for all horses, was won by Mr. Rarey's *Pathfinder* (Mr. Maitland).

The Foochow Cup furnished further evidence of the decline in horse racing and the growing popularity of the China pony. This Cup, hitherto confined to horses, was reduced in value to \$300 and confined to ponies—Indian and Australian excepted. None but China ponies were entered. The race was won by Mr. Foster's *Cornucopia* (Mr. Meyer).

The Shanghai Cup—value 100 guineas, for all horses—was won by *Exeter* (Mr. Cock) 10 st. 4 lb., *Birmingham* (Mr. Morgan) 11 st., being second.

The Ladies' Purse was won by *Busy Bee*.

There were twenty-two races, three of which were confined to China ponies, at this meeting.

1869.

At this meeting the historical race for the Wongneichong Stakes was for the first time confined in the programme to China ponies. A Sweepstakes of \$5 each, with \$75 added. Distance once round.

The race was won by Mr. St. Leger's *Baccarat* (Mr. Morgan).

The Canton Cup, still confined to Arabs, was won by the same owner's *Early Purl* (Mr. Morgan).

The Hongkong Cup for all horses, Arabs 9 st., Americans and Colonials 10 st. 4 lb., English 11 st. 7 lb., distance  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles, was won by Mr. Bisnee's *Havannah* (Mr. Morgan). The same horse won the Parsee Cup, Shanghai Cup and Fakie Cup.

The Valley Stakes for all Manila, China and Japan ponies was won by *Snowdon* (Mr. Waller).

The Portuguese Cup fell to Mr. Rennie's *Exeter* (Mr. Maitland), *Birmingham* (Mr. Morgan) being second.

The Challenge Cup, value 500 guineas, for all horses. Distance 2 miles. Mr. Rennie's *Exeter* (Mr. Maitland) won, with Mr. Derwent's *Birmingham* (Mr. Smith) second, and Mr. Muirhouse's *Sir William* (Mr. Morgan) third.

The following is an account of this race from the *China Mail*:—

"This was a magnificent race. It was pretty well known that the American horse would not start, and it was also tolerably certain that as *Havannah* would probably be kept back for the Parsee Cup the field would be a limited one. The three horses given above came to the post, and the excitement as they came together at the start was intense. *Sir William* was inside next the rails, *Exeter* in the middle, and *Birmingham* outside, and after a short delay the flag fell to a very tolerable start, *Exeter* immediately cutting in to outside place, but *Sir William*, who was no doubt intended to make the running, soon dashed to the front and passing the stand the first time was several lengths in advance, *Exeter* about two lengths in front of *Birmingham*, and these positions were kept all round the first time, the stand being passed the second time in exactly the same order. At the bridge *Birmingham* began to draw up, but *Exeter* was not to be passed and the two raced up to *Sir William* and passed him at the rock. The excitement now was intense, and when the two raced together past the village, cries of "*Exeter!*" "No! *Birmingham!*" issued from hundreds of throats, and amidst the most vociferous cheering the two came thundering up the straight together. *Exeter* was here called upon and showed half-a-length in front, and looked like winning easily, but *Birmingham* responding to his jockey's call in the gamest possible manner, rushed up, but failing to quite reach his opponent was beaten by a short head. A more magnificent race was never witnessed, and many aver that had the post been twenty yards further on, the Cup would have gone to East Point." Time, 4 m. 2 sec.

*Exeter* also won the Portuguese Cup and the Hebrew Cup, the latter presented by the Jewish Community.

The German Cup, value 100 guineas, was confined to China and Manila ponies. Distance 2 miles.

Mr. Foster's China pony *Cornucopia* (Mr. Meyer) won in 4 m. 46 sec.

The United Service Cup, a handicap for all horses, was won by Mr. Derwent's *Birmingham* (Mr. Smith).

This Cup replaced the Garrison Cup at this meeting.

The Subscription Challenge Cup, value 100 guineas, for China ponies the *bonâ fide* property of Hongkong and Canton residents "of not less than 6 months immediately previous to date of entry". To be won two years consecutively by a pony or ponies the *bonâ fide* property of the same owner. Distance 2 miles. Mr. St. Leger's *Coup-de-grace* (Mr. Smith) won; Mr. Forster's *The Hermit* (Mr. Wood) was second and Mr. Forster's *Cornucopia* (Mr. Meyer) third.

The Ladies' Purse, for all ponies, was won by *Half Caste* (Mr. Maitland).

There were twenty-five races in three days racing but the entries were very poor, especially in the events for horses.

There were ten races for horses. In six of these there were only two entries in each and in the remaining four only three entries in each.

There were four races confined to China ponies.

## 1870.

The Jockey Club records do not give the names of the riders at this meeting.

The Wongneichong Stakes, for all ponies, Indian excepted, (once round) was won by Mr. Laurence's *The Squeaker*.

The Canton Cup (for Arabs) fell through for want of more than one starter.

The Garrison Cup, for all horses, Arabs 9 st., Americans and Colonials 10 st. 4 lb., English 11 st. 7 lb., mares and geldings allowed 3 lb.—1½ miles, was won by Mr. St. Leger's *North Australian*, Mr. Rarey's *Exeter* being second. Time 2 m. 57¾ sec.

The Lusitanian Cup, for all horses, Arabs 9 st., Americans and Colonials 10 st., English 11 st., 1½ miles. Mr. Rudolph's *Karoola* won. Mr. Derwent's *Birmingham* was second and Mr. Bisnee's *Eclipse* third. Time 2 m. 32½ sec.

The Valley Stakes, for all Manila, China and Japan ponies, ½ a mile, was won by Mr. Adolphus' *Asti*. Time 1 m. 2½ sec.

The Challenge Cup, value 500 guineas, for all horses—2 miles. Mr. St. Leger's *North Australian* won, Mr. Rarey's *Exeter* was second and Mr. Rudolph's *Karoola* third. Time 3 m. 56¾ sec.

The same horse walked over for the Fakai Cup.

The Parsee Cup, value \$200, for all horses, English excepted, was won by Mr. Hooper's *Javelin*.

The German Cup, under the same conditions as in the previous year, was won by Mr. Amoy's *Panic*.

The Hongkong Cup, value £100, a handicap for all horses—1½ miles—was won by Mr. Rarey's *Exeter* (11 st. 4 lb.) from *Birmingham* (10 st. 7 lb.) and *Early Purl* (9 st.).

The Ashley Cup, presented by two subscribers—for China, Manila and Japan ponies—was won by Mr. Adolphus' *Asti*.

The Subscription Challenge Cup, under the same conditions as in the previous year, was won by the same pony.

The Ladies' Purse, handicap for all ponies and galloways not over 13.3, was won by Mr. Amoy's *Viceroy* (Mr. Dodd) (10 st. 3 lb.), *Caviare* (Mr. Allen) (12 st. 7 lb.) being second.

The Shanghai Cup, value 100 guineas, handicap for all horses—was won by *Exeter* (Mr. Hanna).

This is the first meeting at which the Champion Stakes figured in the programme. The race was a forced entry for all China and Manila ponies. Catch weights. Entrance \$15 with \$100 added.—1½ miles.

Mr. Amoy's *Panic* and *All Fours* were first and second. Time 3 m. 32 sec.

### 1871.

There are no Jockey Club records for this year, and the newspaper file I have consulted, does not give the names of the riders.

For the first and only time in the history of the Hongkong turf, the Wongneichong Stakes failed to produce a race. The race was confined to China and Manila ponies, but neither of the two ponies entered started.

The Portuguese Cup, for all horses, was won by Mr. St. Leger's *North Australian*. *Javelin* was the only other starter.

The Valley Stakes, under the same conditions as in the previous year, was won by Mr. Rudolph's *Skelp*.

The Ashley Cup, confined to China, Manila and Japan ponies, was won by the same owner's *Skite*.

The German Cup—value 100 guineas—for China and Manila ponies was won by *Skelp*.

The Challenge Cup—value 500 guineas—for all horses, Arabs 9 st., Colonials under 5 years, 10 st., 5 years and upwards, 10 st. 4 lb., English horses under 5 years, 10 st. 7 lb., 5 years and upwards, 10 st. 11 lb., was won by Mr. St. Leger's *North Australian*. It was a poor race, the only other starter being *Javelin*, who was pulled up.

The Parsee Cup, a handicap for China and Manila ponies, was won by Mr. Alexander's *Vertugadin*.

The Hongkong Cup—value £100—a handicap for all horses, was won by Mr. Derwent's *Birmingham*, with *Javelin* second and *Exeter* third. *Birmingham* also won the Fakie Cup.

The Subscription Challenge Cup—value 100 guineas—was won by *Skelp*.

The Ladies' Purse, a handicap for all ponies that had run at the meeting, fell to *Caviare*.

The Champion Stakes was won by *Alchemist*. There was no Garrison Cup at this meeting, and the horse racing was very tame.

### 1872.

There are no Jockey Club records for this year.

At this meeting all the races were confined to China, Manila and Japan ponies, except the Subscription Challenge Cup and the Mafoos' race which were confined to China ponies, and the Roadsters Plate and Hongkong Club Cup, confined to horses.

The Wongneichong Stakes was won by Mr. Henry's *Almeric*. The Ashley Cup fell to Mr. Alexander's *Avon*—the same pony won the German Cup, value 100 guineas, and the Fakai Cup, value 200 dollars.

The Valley Stakes did not figure in the programme for this meeting.

The next event, the Stirrup Cup, contains the first mention, I find, of the term "Griffin" in connection with Hongkong racing. The race was confined to "all Griffins imported into Hongkong under the conditions of the "Griffin Subscription Sweepstake" and was won by Mr. McDonall's *The Pilgrim*.

The Garrison Cup—value 200 dollars—was won by Mr. Alexander's *Bonne Bouche*. The same pony won the Subscription Challenge Cup—value 100 guineas.

The Roadsters Plate, for all horses, was won by *Clyndericen* : and the Hongkong Club Cup, value 100 dollars, likewise for all horses, was won by Captain Warrington's *Sadowa*.

The Parsee Cup—value 100 dollars—was won by Mr. Henry's *Cambalu*.

The Ladies' Purse was won by Mr. Herbert's *General*. The Champion Stakes was won by Mr. Kushan's *Gratitude*.

### 1873.

The Jockey Club records are fairly complete from this year to date, and the winners of the principal races are recorded in the appendix to the Annual Race Book. It is unnecessary, therefore, to cite the names of winners of the various races, and I will conclude my notes by recording the following facts which are of interest.

In this year the Hongkong Derby was first run. It was confined to China ponies—griffins at date of entry.

All the pony races were, as in the previous year, confined to China, Manila and Japan ponies. They continued to be so confined, with the exceptions mentioned below, till 1887 when all races were confined to China ponies. The Roadsters Plate and the Victoria Plate (a handicap) were the only races for horses. They were both won by *Highflyer* (Mr. Allen).

### 1874.

There was only one race for horses—the Roadsters Plate—at this meeting.

### 1875.

The time honoured Fakie Cup disappeared from the programme. Its place was taken by the Keechong Cup.

The German Cup was confined to Subscription Horses, and won by *Claymore* (Mr. Dodd) from one other runner. There were thirteen entries for this race—all Walers. There was also a handicap for horses, won by *Cassandra* (Mr. Dodd). In this race there were fourteen entries, Walers, but only three runners.

### 1877.

The Garrison Cup was confined to horses. There were fourteen entries, Walers, but only three runners. The race was won by Mr. Ernest's *Jim Crow* (Mr. Tennant).

### 1878.

The Valley Stakes was confined to China Subscription Griffins.

The Champion Stakes was confined to China and Manila ponies.

A Sweepstakes and a handicap were provided for horses, and the Garrison and Parsee Cups were also reserved for them. With this expiring effort horse racing in Hongkong ceased till the years 1901, 1902 and 1903, when Walers were again raced owing to the impossibility of obtaining ponies from North China because of the Boxer disturbances.

### 1882.

The German Cup was confined to China ponies, Subscription Griffins.

### 1883.

The Garrison Cup was confined to China ponies.

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The most remarkable success of any one stable in the records of the Hongkong turf was achieved at the meeting in 1884, when Mr. Paul (now Sir Paul) Chater won fifteen races with ten different ponies out of a string of thirteen which he had running. These wins comprised the Ashley Cup, Derby, Maharajah Cup, Foochow Cup, German Cup, Parsee Cup, Professional Cup, Driving Cloud Cup, Brokers Cup, Flyaway Stakes, Farewell Cup, Navy Plate, Garrison Cup, Consolation Stakes and Champions.

In addition two ponies trained in his stable—one for Mr. H. N. Mody and the other for Mr. T. Chater (a brother of Sir Paul's)—won a race each, thus making 17 wins for the stable out of a total of 26 races run during the three days of the meeting. Of these winners Mr. Nickells rode ten and Mr. J. A. Pond seven.

It was the first time that Mr. Mody raced in Hongkong and he met at once with that success which has attended him ever since, for he won the Valley Stakes with a pony named *Goldfinch*. Mr. T. Chater won the Nil Desperandum with *Perak*.

Sir Paul Chater retired on these laurels and has not raced on the Hongkong turf since. He has, however, been a most successful trainer of Mr. Mody's large and generally successful stable.

Sir Paul has established another record, which will be as hard to beat as the one quoted above.

Since 1865, which was the first Hongkong race meeting he attended, he has not missed a single meeting. Thus the race meeting of 1909 was the 44th consecutive one that he has witnessed. May he live to enjoy many more.

Of stables, none has been such a consistent supporter of the Hongkong Turf as that which was started almost at the commencement of racing in Hongkong by Messrs. David and Joseph Jardine, brothers of the late Sir Robert Jardine whose name appears in the records for 1850, and some subsequent years, as a successful rider and owner.

Successive partners in the firm of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. have continued this sportsmanlike encouragement of racing in Hongkong, year by year, almost without a single interruption.

It is sometimes thought that the expenses connected with the racing have been borne by the partners of the Firm in the Far East out of a common fund to which the Firm contributed. This is quite an erroneous impression. Individual partners have at all times borne the expense out of their own pockets, as purely private and personal expenditure.

Up to the year 1859 the colours of the representatives of the Firm were Blue and White. In that year they seem to have been changed to the well known and deservedly popular Blue and Silver.

In 1874 a representative of the Firm for the first time raced under the name of John Peel, and since 1885 this has been the racing name of those representatives of the Firm who have patronised our local Turf.

Since Sir R. Jardine's time there have, as far as I can find, been only two Heads of the Firm who have donned silk and ridden their ponies in our races,—Mr. John Bell-Irving who besides other successes rode *Conqueror* to victory in the Champion Stakes in 1885 ; and Mr. W. J. Gresson who has a very successful record as a rider on the Hongkong course, and at Shanghai and Northern Ports, and who in 1905 won the Derby on his pony, *Cotswold*, and six other races on his own ponies.

It is no small debt of gratitude, therefore, that all who are interested in the Hongkong Turf owe to the stable at East Point, and to the sportsmen who have won for it such a fine record as it holds.

Ever since the first meeting in Hongkong in 1845, the riders of horses and ponies have all been amateurs. At no time have professional Jockeys been permitted to ride. To this circumstance and to the thoroughly sporting spirit in which racing has been conducted, is no doubt due the fact that only once in the history of racing in Hongkong—extending as it does over a period of more than 64 years—has a charge for dishonest riding been made against a rider at our meetings.

This one exception occurred in 1883 in connection with a race on the Off Day, when a certain rider was reported to the Stewards for pulling his pony. The Stewards "accepted Mr. ——'s explanation of the reasons which induced him to ride *Scotch Reel* in a very unusual manner" and thus this scandal ended. As long as the Hongkong Turf retains the high tone which at present pervades it, there is little fear of a recurrence of this one blot in its annals. There is no doubt that this desirable tone will be maintained as long as owners of race ponies and the Stewards of the Hongkong Jockey Club, continue to be animated by the keen desire they have hitherto exhibited of providing racing as a sport to be indulged in by men, who are sportsmen by nature and education, for the sake of sport and not as a mere medium of gambling.

Our gentlemen riders themselves have contributed largely to this satisfactory record. They have been in the past, and are to this day imbued by the desire to ride their races with the sole object of doing justice to their mounts, their owners and themselves, without unfair prejudice to other competitors in the race.

And while on the subject of riders, a word or two concerning some I have known, may be of interest. The first race meeting I attended was in 1887. I was thus too late to see Mr. Ogle, who did not ride in Hongkong after 1882, and Mr. Bidwell and Mr. Dunman, who made their last appearance on the Hongkong course in 1884 and 1886 respectively. Mr. Bidwell had the reputation of being the finest performer on a China pony of his day. Mr. Ogle was, I believe, an exceptionally fine rider also, but he did not care to ride for any but his personal friends, and his record of wins was therefore more restricted than that of some other riders. Mr. Dunman was a Hongkong man and a very good rider. He had the misfortune to be carried through the rails in a race at Foochow breaking his thigh. I do not think he rode after that.

In 1887 Mr. W. P. Maclean, a hard riding Australian, with an exceptional knowledge of pace, who won many races on the Hongkong course, the late Mr. N. R. Crawford and Mr. D. W. Crawford all rode for the first time in Hongkong.

Mr. N. R. Crawford was a most attractive rider and at once made his mark by winning a race. He had, while studying at Rouen, ridden training gallops for his amusement for a racing stable there, and there is no doubt that he was a proficient horseman, who would have established a great reputation in the Far East. He was, like his brother, who also gave much promise at this meeting, of a quiet unassuming disposition and a sportsman to the marrow, and was much beloved by all who knew him. To the great sorrow of his many friends he died of typhoid fever in 1888.

The Shanghai contingent which came down to ride at this meeting was an extremely strong one. It comprised Mr. E. Sassoon, a sportsman who won much success on his own ponies, Mr. Baker, and the historic names of Mr. Harry Hutchings, Mr. J. A. Pond, Mr. "Pip" Reynell, Mr. Nickells and Mr. T. F. Hough. It is doubtful whether a stronger quintette of riders than these latter have ever faced the starter on the

Hongkong course. Probably the most successful of them was Mr. Harry Hutchings—or “Wild Harry”—as he was nicknamed. He was an American, and I believe he learned to ride in Shanghai. He was a wiry man, below the average height, and of great physical strength. He rode with extraordinarily short stirrups—so short that he hardly ever wore spurs. Very often he carried no whip. He owed his success to a wonderful knowledge of pace, to the remarkably light way he sat his pony, and to his muscular strength in forcing his mount with his legs and hands.

I remember hearing a number of globe trotters, who were viewing the morning gallops before the races in 1889, commenting on his remarkable seat: “Do you call that your crack jockey?” they said, “why he doesn’t know how to sit—he looks like a monkey on a pole!” And yet “Wild Harry” was only sitting as Tod Sloan taught, in a more exaggerated form, English Jockeys to sit many years afterwards.

Mr. Pond was a rider scarcely less successful than Mr. Hutchings. He, too, rode rather short, as indeed did Mr. Reynell and Mr. Hough. Mr. Pond was remarkable for his rush at the finish, and used to afford his many admirers immense satisfaction by snatching victory almost on the post with one of his artistic final efforts.

I had not the opportunity of watching Mr. Nickells as closely as the others, for I only saw him ride at this one meeting and have no very clear recollection of his style.

Mr. Reynell rode with great judgment, and with a pony that suited him was very hard to beat. His legs were very short, and a wide pony did not suit him; and if he was not comfortable on his mount, I fancy he did not persevere much with it.

The strongest rider that has ever been seen in Hongkong or China is undoubtedly Mr. T. F. Hough. A fine horseman, possessed of great coolness and judgment, he always did his mount justice and gave owners satisfaction. But he was possessed in addition of extraordinary strength, and it is no exaggeration to say that he won many races on ponies that no other man riding at the time would have won on. I can remember two remarkable wins of his among many. In 1887 he won the Champions on Mr. John Bell-Irving’s *Mistletoe*, after a tremendous race, but the pony never did anything afterwards. The effort he was forced to put forth was too much for him. In 1889 he won the same race on the same owner’s *Orlando*. I remember watching this race beside the owner, who had no less than four ponies out to try and beat the winner of the Derby—Mr. Mody’s *Pao Shing*. Mr. Hough had asked to be allowed to ride *Orlando*, though the latter had had a punishing race of  $1\frac{3}{4}$  miles in the Challenge Cup (which he won) earlier in the day. The first string of the stable was *Challenger*, with Mr. Reynell in the saddle. *Pao Shing* got shut in coming into the straight, and inside the distance all the ponies were bunched with *Orlando*, hard ridden, prominent, when suddenly Mr. John Bell-Irving cried out “Tommy Hough has got his chin out and is going to win”:

and sure enough there came "Tommy" with his square chin stuck well forward in the characteristic way he had, when riding a hard finish, as he fairly lifted *Orlando* and landed him a clever winner.

Mr. Hough had the misfortune to break his right leg very badly through his mount, a pony of Mr. James Bell-Irving's called *Vagrant*, falling with him in the race for the Champion Stakes in 1894. This accident gave him much trouble and brought his brilliant career as a gentleman rider to an end. After the fracture was united it was found that one of the toes was injured, and in connection with this injury he consulted Mr. (now Sir Frederick) Treves in London. He was introduced by my brother, who had previously told the eminent surgeon how Mr. Hough, whom he described as a crack gentleman rider in Hongkong and China, had met with his accident. Mr. Hough was always a man of large frame who had to reduce his weight by over a stone and a half in order to ride. During the time he was laid up in Hongkong with his broken leg, and on the voyage home, he had naturally put on a great deal of weight, and when he appeared in Sir F. Treves' consulting room he must have weighed nearly 13 stone, and his square shoulders gave him the appearance of weighing more.

"This is Mr. Hough whom I have told you about", said my brother. "Oh! Good morning Mr. Hough", said Sir Frederick shaking hands, and adding *sotto voce* to my brother with that dry humour for which he is so celebrated "I say, May, do they race elephants in Hongkong?"

In 1890 Mr. G. C. C. Master began to ride, and to win without further ado. Few riders have earned a higher reputation in the Far East than he. He rode decidedly short, and like Mr. Hutchings owed a great deal of his remarkable success to the extreme lightness with which he rode his pony. Moreover, he packed himself away so close to his mount, that no rider I have watched was so successful as he in squeezing through on the rails. Time and again he has repeated this manœuvre, and by it has stolen not a few races. He was always in very hard condition, and could ride the most inveterate slug with untiring perseverance. He was perhaps never in better form than at the meeting of 1908 when he won nine races for Mr. Mody, and some of them on animals that any other man would have been proud to get a third place on.

We have already mentioned Mr. Gresson, whom we claim as a Hongkong rider though I am bound to say he learned most of his art in Shanghai. Mr. Gresson always rides with great judgment and has put up many very pretty finishes. Another member of the Firm who was a keen supporter of racing was Mr. W. A. Cruickshank, who had many successes as an owner and rider in Hongkong.

Mr. Johnson, of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers, rode during the years that Walers came again into vogue owing to the Boxer outbreak, and distinguished himself as a strong and very capable jockey.

The late Mr. Morton Jones was another very hard rider. He was an Australian, and had the peculiarity of kicking his feet out of his stirrups in a finish in order the better to get at his mount.

We must not forget to mention Mr. Hart Buck, a very nice horseman, whose legs were somewhat too long to allow him great success on a China pony. He rode many fine races, nevertheless, principally for the late Mr. J. D. Humphreys, one of the best sportsmen and keenest supporters of the local Turf that Hongkong has ever seen.

Mr. H. Sampson was a rider who demands mention if only on account of his perfect seat. He was not strong enough to win a large measure of success.

In Mr. John Johnstone Hongkong possesses an expert rider, whose easy seat and fine riding are so familiar to my readers that I need not dilate upon them. In Shanghai he bears the reputation of being the best steeple-chase rider there. That is saying a great deal for they are critical in Shanghai. And besides there is Mr. "Chuck" Burkill to be reckoned with, to say nothing of others. We will pay Mr. Johnstone the compliment of saying that we have not seen a better horseman East of Suez.

We have still another good rider in Mr. W. S. Dupree, who has won many races, including the Champions, in Hongkong and has recently made a successful *début* on the Shanghai course.

I have unfortunately never witnessed the Shanghai races, but have seen most of the best Shanghai men riding on the Hongkong course. They are a hard riding lot and hard to beat. One of the very best to my mind is Mr. D. W. Crawford, who, as stated above, began his career on the Hongkong course and has been very successful on it, as well as in Shanghai. He is one of those generous souls who will get up and ride a friend's pony without regard to its prospects of winning. His record of classic wins may not be as long, owing to this unselfishness, as the records of some of his competitors, but his reputation does not stand any the lower.

Mr. Wakeford Cox, Mr. J. C. Cumming and Mr. "Tiney" Midwood, whom we have not seen of late years at Hongkong, were a treat to watch. Mr. Cumming is a very fine horseman and a powerful rider; and I question whether any rider that we have seen in silk on the Hongkong course has exhibited such perfect judgment as Mr. Midwood.

Mr. J. A. Hayes and Mr. E. Moller are both strong riders, whose successes have been very numerous. The former holds the record of wins at one and the same meeting for the Hongkong course. In 1906 he achieved the brilliant record of twelve wins, ten of them, including the Maidens, Derby and Champions, being on ponies belonging to Mr. Mody.

Mr. Vida possesses most beautiful hands, to which he owes many of his successes,

There remain to be mentioned the brothers Burkhill, whose fame resounds throughout the Far East. We have had the pleasure of seeing Mr. A. W. Burkhill ride on various occasions in Hongkong, and it was a great treat. He is a strong and very pretty rider and always rides with his head. It was not till last year that we saw the redoubtable "Chuck" Burkhill at work in silk. He, like his brother and the other Shanghai men mentioned above, rides with the long stirrup of what may be called the Meyerink school. It is claimed, I believe, that with this seat more work can be done on the China pony which, as is well known, needs a great deal of riding. However that may be, there is no gainsaying the fact that our Shanghai friends are hard to beat at anything and especially at riding China ponies, and that this particular rider is the hardest to vanquish of all. I saw Mr. "Chuck" Burkhill win nine races last Hongkong meeting. Of these I calculate that he stole two, if not three. I have never seen a man sit quieter on his mount, or ride with nicer judgment. When I add that he has a great knowledge of pace, is very strong in the saddle, and can get to the bottom of the most unwilling mount, the reader will understand that he is indeed a "rum 'un to follow and a bad a 'un to beat".



Year.	Wongnei-chong Stakes.	Plenipotentiary's Cup.	Valley Stakes.	Canton Cup.	Challenge Cup.	Shanghai Cup.	Parsee Cup.	Fakei Cup.	Garrison Cup.	German Cup.	Foochow Cup.	Lusitanean now Lusitano Cup.	Ashley Cup.	Champion Stakes.	Ladies' Purse.	
1847	Tetoy.	...	Tetoy.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
1848	Monsoon.	Grey Style	Tetoy.	St. Andrew.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Beauty.	
1849	Charlie.	Kathleen.	Tetoy.	Lottery.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Charlie.	
1850	Cruiskeen.	Kathleen.	Tetoy.	St. Andrew.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Prince.	
1851	Creditor.	Goliath.	Creditor.	St. Andrew.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Tetoy.	
1852	Cockspinner.	Pretender.	The Sheik.	Erin-go-bragh.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	The Sheik.	
1853	Prince.	Corsair.	Rory.	Erin-go-bragh.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	The Sheik.	
1854	Fidget.	Goldfinder.	Rory.	Temptation.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Rory.	
1855	Hurricane.	Grey Friar.	Hurricane.	Wild Duck.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	The Sheik.	
1856	Mat o' Manila.	...	Mat o' Manila.	Druid.	...	...	...	Grey Friar.	...	...	...	...	...	...	The Sheik.	
1857	Refugee.	...	Refugee.	Druid.	...	...	Ivanhoe.	Redgauntlet.	...	...	...	...	...	...	The Sheik.	
1858	Postilion.	...	Mat o' Manila.	Sir Michael.	...	...	Sydney.	Canrobert.	...	...	...	...	...	...	Wee Pet.	
1859	Bustard.	...	Flash of Lightning.*	Sir Michael.	Snowdon.	Ivanhoe.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Afghan.	
1860	Negro.	...	Negro.	Sir Michael.	Stockham.	...	Templar.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Pearl.	
1861	Saucebox.	...	Saucebox.	Forester.	Robin Hood	...	Templar.	Snowdon.	...	...	...	...	...	...	Afghan.	
1862	Mangosteen.	...	Mangosteen.	Forester.	Garibaldi.	...	Gratis.	Templar.	Eskdale.	Eskdale.	...	...	...	...	Afghan.	
1863	The Admiral.	...	Spanish Student.*	Forester.	Sir William.	North Pole	Deerfoot.	Sir William.	North Pole	No race.	Forester.	...	...	...	Reindeer.	
1864	Timor.	...	Cobweb.	Hadji.	North Pole. Haddington. Chieftain (late Millionaire).	Chieftain (late Millionaire).	Scamp.	Anecdote.	No race.	North Pole. Haddington.	Traveller.	...	...	...	Aga.*	
1865	Magic.*	...	Cromwell.*	...	Haddington. Exeter. Chieftain (late Millionaire).	Sir William.	Warrior.	Anecdote.	No race.	Warrior.	Exeter.	...	...	...	Aga.*	
1866	Cœur de Lion.*	...	Rob Roy.*	...	Exeter. Sir William. Haddington.	Sir William.	Exeter.	Exeter.	No race.	Sir William.	Pathfinder.	...	...	...	Aga.*	
1867	Blue Funk.*	...	The Rejected.*	Early Purl.	Exeter. Pathfinder. Sir William.	Exeter.	...	Exeter.	...	Exeter.	Pomeroy.	Sir William.	Exeter.	...	Busy Bee.*	
1868	Alarm.*	...	The Rejected.*	No race.	Birmingham. Exeter. Haddington.	Exeter.	Havannah.	Pathfinder.	Alarm.*	Birmingham.	Cornucopia.*	Exeter.	...	...	Busy Bee.*	
1869	Baccarat.*	...	Snowdon.*	Early Purl.	Exeter. Birmingham. Sir William.	Havannah.	Havannah.	Havannah.	...	Cornucopia.*	...	...	...	...	HalfCaste.*	
1870	The Squeaker.*	...	Asti.*	No race.	North Australian. Exeter. Karoola.	Exeter.	Javelin.	North Australian.	North Australian.	Panic.*	...	Karoola.	Asti.*	Panic.*	Viceroy.*	
1871	No race.	...	Skelp.*	...	North Australian.	...	Vertugadin.*	Birmingham.	No race.	Skelp.*	...	No race.	Skite.*	Alchemist.	Caviare.*	
1872	†	...	No race.	...	...	†	...	Cambalu.*	Avon.*	Bonne Bouche.*	†	...	No race.	Avon.*	†	Général.*
1873	†	...	No race.	Sleepy Hollow.*	†	...	...	Snow-drift.*	...	†	...	No race.	...	†	†	
1874	†	...	No race.	...	†	...	...	Souvenir.*	...	†	...	Grasshopper.*	...	†	†	
1875	†	...	Schoolcraft.*	...	†	...	...	...	...	†	†	...	...	†	†	

\* China Ponies.

† See Annual Race Book.